ing on anti-India propaganda featuring that refugees were forced to say that the treatment given to them in Tamil Nadu was not good ;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ; and

(c) what measures Government are taking to counteract this false propaganda by Sri Lanka against India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Roopvahini, the Sri Lanka Government T. V. network as also the Sri Lankan press have carried items reportedly quoting refugees, who have returned to Sri Lanka from India, as saying that they returned because of difficult conditions in the refugee camps in Tamil Nadu and because of sickness.

(b) In a Roopvahini news bulletin on March 30, it was stated that "refugees who came back to Sri Lanka from India say that conditions in Tamil Nadu are extremely hard and that many of the Lankans there want to come back". Pictures were shown of refugees standing in a row at Talaimannar and it was claimed that they were fisher folk (14 men, 10 children and 4 women) who left Sri Lanka the previous year and who were said to have returned to Sri Lanka by mechanized boat.

In a second news report on April 8, the Roopvahini showed another group of refugees and claimed that 115 Sri Lanka Tamils (56 children, 47 women and 12 men) had arrived at Talaimannar for the same reasons.

(c) The reports in the Sri Lanka T. V. follow similar reports in the Sri Lankan media that Sri Lanka refugees were being prevented from returning to Sri Lanka. The official spokesman of the Government of India had clarified on 21-3-86 that there is no basis to press reports that any substantial number of Sri Lankan refugees want to go back to Sri Lanka or that they are being prevented from doing so. The Government of India would welcome the creation of conditons in Sri Lanka which would enable the refugees presently in India to return to their homes in safety and dignity.

Government have repeatedly stated that they would be happy to see Sri Lankan Tamil refugees presently in India go back to their country. Reports of continuing violence and killings of civilians, however, would indicate that the conditions in the Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka are far from normal. The fact that hardly any of the 125000 refugees presently in India have returned to Sri Lanka is the best refutation of this false propaganda the Roopvahini TV network.

Computerisation of Government Departments

368. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) how much money Government have decided to spend for computerisation of some of the Departments under the National Computer Network with Department-wise details ;

(b) the sources from which such computers are going to be acquired ; and

(c) what arrangements have been made for the servicing of these machines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : (a) The Government is implementing a programme for the development of

National Computer Network (NICNET) connecting the various Departments/Ministries at the Central and State levels. This programme is being implemented by National Informatics Centre (NIC) who have already developed a number of software systems for computerisation of various Central Government departments. During 7th Plan, NIC has been given an allocation of Rs. 62 crores for the purpose.

(b) The medium level computers required at the state level will be procured from indigenous manufacturers who have been permitted to manufacture the mainframe or the Super-Mini computer systems. The Microprocessor systems required will be procured from the indigenous sources. Very large systems required for the network which are not manufactured in the country have been already procured from NEC, Japan.

(c) These machines are being or will be maintained either in house by National Informatics centre or by CMC Limited.

Disappearance of two AN-32 Aircraft of the Indian Air Force

369. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :
SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL :
SHRI M. KADHARSHA :
SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of aircraft accidents involving the AN-32 transport aircraft of the Indian Air Force during the last six months ;

(b) what are the circumstances leading to disappearance of two of these aircraft on the 22nd and 25th March, 1986 respectively, during the course of their flight;

(c) what is the number of total hours of flying done by either of the two aircraft;

(d) what are the details of efforts made to locate them and whether any clues to rule out the possibility of any foul play have been found so far;

(e) whether any investigation into the mishaps has been made ; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(f) what are the details of the loss of life and material suffered as a result of the accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) Two AN-32 aircraft are missing since 22nd and 25th March, 1986.

(b) The AN-32 aircraft reported missing on 22nd March, 1986 was on a routine air maintenance task in the J&K area. When the aircraft was about 70 nautical miles from Pathankot, the pilot decided to return to base due to bad weather. Thereafter, contact was lost with this aircraft. The AN-32 aircraft reported missing on 25th March, 1986 was on the last leg of its ferry from the Soviet Union, between Muscat and Jamnagar. The last radio contact with the captain of this aircraft was at 1445 hours.

(c) The first AN-32 aircraft had flown about 543 hours. The second was a new aircraft and had done about 40 hours of flying.

(d) and (e) An intensive search by air ground parties was immidiately launched to locate the first aircraft missing in the J & K area. When the second aircraft did not reach Jamnagar in time an areal search was launched by IAF/Naval aircraft and/Naval Coast Guard ships. The civil authorities in coastal areas were alerted. All flights ex-Bombay were also requested to monitor distress signals. Courts of Inquary have been ordered to investigate all aspects relevant to the possible causes for the loss of the aircraft, which are still in progress. So far neither the aircraft nor wreckege has been located. No clues are presently available to suggest the possibility of foul play.